

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 10480 241021Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03  
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-07 DODE-00 H-01 NSC-05 /086 W  
-----072769 241154Z /46

R 241011Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5490  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
USMISSION GENEVA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USEEC  
USNATO

E. O. 11652:GDS  
TAGS: UK-EC  
SUBJECT: US-EC POLITICAL COOPERATION DURING THE  
BRITISH PRESIDENCY

1. FROM OUR PERSPECTIVE, US-EUROPEAN POLITICAL  
CONSULTATION DURING THE BRITISH PRESIDENCY MET THE  
MAJOR OBJECTIVE OF THE GYMNICH ARRANGEMENT. THROUGH  
DOZENS OF BRIEFINGS AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, THE US  
RECEIVED ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE OF PENDING EC DECISIONS IN  
TIME FOR WASHINGTON TO REGISTER ITS VIEW. UK  
ADMINISTRATION OF US-EC POLITICAL COOPERATION WAS  
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PAGE 02 LONDON 10480 241021Z

SUPERB. UNLIKE THE AUTUMN OF 1973, THERE WERE NO  
SIGNIFICANT SURPRISES SPRUNG ON THE US. THAT ACCOMPLISH  
MENT REPRESENTS, WE BELIEVE, THE MOST PERSUASIVE  
REASON TO KEEP INFORMATION FLOWING THROUGH THIS  
PARTICULAR ATLANTIC PIPELINE. IT INSULATES US FROM  
SHOCK.

2. HAVING SAID THIS, WE WOULD ALSO OBSERVE THAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CSCE AND, ON TWO OCCASIONS, THE MIDDLE EAST, NOTHING OF MUCH CONSEQUENCE PASSED EITHER WAY THROUGH THE CHANNEL. OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE NINE ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE WERE FREQUENT AND PRODUCTIVE. AS IN THE PAST CSCE REMAINS THE OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF US-EC POLITICAL COOPERATION. FURTHER, AT THE BEGINNING AND THE END OF THE UK PRESIDENCY, THE NINE'S PROPOSED STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE EAST WAS A SUBJECT OF SERIOUS US-EC EXCHANGE. MOST OF THE REST OF THE DIALOGUE WAS TRIVIAL.

3. THERE WERE THE SAME OLD REASONS FOR THIS. ON MANY ISSUES THE NINE TOGETHER WERE NOT A PARTICULARLY COHESIVE NOR RELIABLE GROUP WITH WHICH TO TALK, AND COULD DO LITTLE IF THEY WERE. A NEW US ADMINISTRATION CONFRONTED THE FAMILIAR PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CONSULTING RATHER THAN INFORMING THE COMMUNITY ON ISSUES AT THE BONE OF US NATIONAL INTERESTS. AND, MOST IMPORTANT, TRANSATLANTIC POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS WERE INTENSIVELY CARRIED ON BY OTHER VOICES IN OTHER ROOMS--DURING THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT, AT THE QUADRIPARTITE SUMMIT, THE NATO SUMMIT, IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL, AND THROUQH DOZENS OF HIGH-LEVEL BILATERAL MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON, LONDON, PARIS AND

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PAGE 03 LONDON 10480 241021Z

BONN.

4. AS THE PRESIDENCY MOVES TO BRUSSELS, WE WOULD CONCLUDE THAT WHILE THE US SHOULD GO ON WORKING TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF THE FORMAL US-EC POLITICAL INSTRUMENT, WHAT MATTERS MOST IS THAT OVERALL US CONSULTATION WITH ITS EUROPEAN ALLIES HAS PROBABLY NEVER BEEN BETTER.

BREWSTER

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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
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